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A COPPY
Of The
SPEECH
Made By
Sir Iohn Lenthall
To The
LORD-MAYOR & ALDERMEN
In The
GUILD-HALL
LONDON,
The of 1659.

For the ſatisfying of ſuch as either by miſ-report or miſ underſtanding of ſome paſſages in it, have excepted againſt it.

LONDON,
Printed by *Tho. Leach*. 1659

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My Lord Mayor,

Am very happy that you have given this Committee of Parliament ſuch ſatisfaction, and alſo that we have given this Court the knowledge of our Intentions: How farre the Parliament is from giving you any juſt occaſions, I have already given you Aſſurances of, and I hope this Conference will give us a better and more firm Confidence one in the other, that ſo we may walk together in a mutual and happy Compliance; It was hinted by the worthy Alderman that ſpoke laſt, how that the Poſts and Chains were ſet up for the Security of the City, and to prevent

ſuch Dangers as they were ſo lately threatned with. This I muſt confeſſe was a juſt occaſion to ſecure your ſelves from hazards of this nature, but why it ſhould now be done when your dangers are paſt, and when that Authority is in being, which you pretended to have ſo ardent deſires too, and which (I may ſay) you cannot fear, when you conſider how tender they have been to the People, how great Friends they have been to the Commerce and Trade of this place, and how deſirous they formerly have been to preſerve the Privileges and Rights of it againſt all Danger and Invaſion; And me thinks 'tis no ſmall happineſs, that from a Confuſion ſo lately here, there ſhould be this Calm and this Tranquility.

In the ſeveral diſcourſes, I apprehend there has been a little glance at the form of Government, and though we have no inſtructions as to that, yet ſince the opportunity is given, I will let you under-

underſtand what *I* perceive the intentions of the Parliament are. Their whole deſign is a Common-Wealth Government, that is, that the Nation ſhall be Governed by ſucceſsive Parliaments freely choſen by the People: *I* muſt confeſſe *I* know not how this may agree with the inclinations of the Engliſh Nation, for it has been my misfortune never to have known a quiet or an eſtabliſhed Government amongſt us, ſo that *I* can ſpeak but of ſuch a one as *I* have been informed of, and ſuch a part of one, as *I* a little time lived under. The firſt is determined by the hand of warr, the other diſturb'd before 'twas brought to perfection, yet under that little glimpſe we had of what we ſhould have, it might eaſily be diſcovered, that was not likely to be an unproffitable one: And *I* am of opinion, that moſt of this Honorable number will affirme the ſame; it being a ſeaſon wherein Trade ſo flouriſhed, and the Merchant made ſo ſuc-

ceſſefull returns, that I believe moſt of you can date the begetings of your wealth from the time you were under that Authority; And if any of you have had loſſes, you muſt derive them from ſucceeding times, which have been very unfortunate to this Nation, and moſt unhappy to this City.

There are in *Europe* ſeveral formes of Governmernt, ſome under Monarchies, others under Free-States, the firſt may be good, the other we are certain are very beneficial to the people that live under them, as there are many of you can witneſſe from what you have obſerved in ſome parts of *Italy*, *Germany*, *France*, and from our rich and near Neighbours, the Free-States of *Holland*, who have now maſter'd the Trade of this part of the world, and ſwallowed the Engliſh glory and wealth. And I am of opinion this proceeds from the very form of Government; which is amongſt them, but yet I do not like

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it ſo well, as that I could wiſh an imitation of it here, for it will neither agree with the intereſt nor the people of this Nation, it not being generous enough for ſo magnanimous a people.

I have ſpoke all this my Lord brokenly, becauſe 'tis only to anſwer objections that have been made, and I am very ſenſible of the trouble I have detaind you with, I ſhall therefore conclude with this advice, that this City would be carefull how they make cauſeleſs jealouſies, and by making preparations againſt them you may create real dangers; For 'tis not my obſervation only, but of the beſt Hiſtorians; That when too much miſtruſt of their dangers have been infuſed into the multitude, they make their reſorts to numbers and very quickly increaſe and commonly the moſt indigent are the moſt luxurious, when having their oportunity they become their own Carvers,

vers, and if under-hand this be compoſed for the bringing in of the King, (as that is the opinion of many) why then certainly if he found the indigent did his buſineſſe, 'tis his intereſt to enrich them with the wealth of thoſe that were leſſe active though not leſs deſirous to have the thing done.

Thus my Lord, I have given you my opinion, and my advice muſt be, That your Lordſhip, with the reſt of this Honorable number, would make it your endeavours to appeaſe the diſtractions not to inflame them, the one reliſhes much of prudence, the other of Precipitancy.

FINIS.